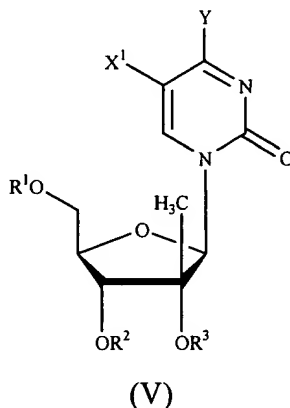


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-82, 84, 85, 87, 88, 91-99, and 103-129 (cancelled)

Sub B
Claim 83 (currently amended): ~~The A~~ method for the treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of Hepatitis C virus infection in a host of claim 89, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula V:



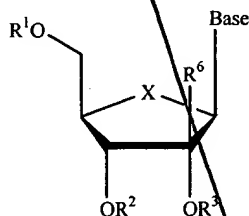
A
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

R¹, R² and R³ are independently H; ~~phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug)~~ phosphate; stabilized phosphate prodrug; acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester; alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl; methanesulfonyl; benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents; a lipid; a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R¹, R² and R³ are independently H or phosphate;

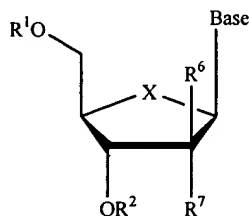
X¹ is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR⁴, NR⁴NR⁵ or SR⁴; and

R⁴ and R⁵ are independently hydrogen, acyl ~~(including lower acyl)~~, or alkyl ~~(including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl, and cyclopropyl)~~.

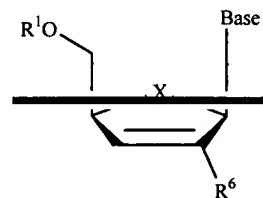
Claim 86 (currently amended): ~~The A~~ method for the treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host of claim 89, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula X, ~~or XI or XII~~:



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

Base is a ~~purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein~~;

R¹, R² and R³ are independently H; ~~phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug)~~ phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug) phosphate; stabilized phosphate prodrug; acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester; alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl; methanesulfonyl; benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents; a lipid; a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R¹, R² and R³ are independently H or phosphate;

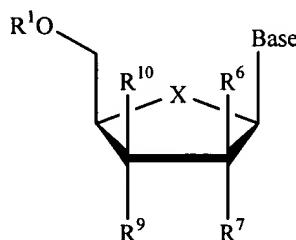
R⁶ is hydroxy, alkyl, azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO₂, NH₂, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)₂, -N(acyl)₂;

R⁷ is OR³, hydroxy, alkyl, azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO₂, NH₂, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)₂, -N(acyl)₂; and

X is O, S, SO₂ or CH₂.

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Claim 89 (currently amended): A method for the treatment or ~~prophylaxis~~ of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XVII:



(XVII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable or prodrug thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

Base is a ~~purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein~~;

R¹ and R² are independently H; ~~phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug)~~ phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug) phosphate; stabilized phosphate prodrug; acyl (~~including lower acyl~~); alkyl (~~including lower alkyl~~); sulfonate ester; alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl; methane-sulfonyl; benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents; a lipid; a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R¹, R² and R³ are independently H or phosphate;

R⁶ is hydroxy, alkyl, azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO₂, NH₂, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)₂, -N(acyl)₂;

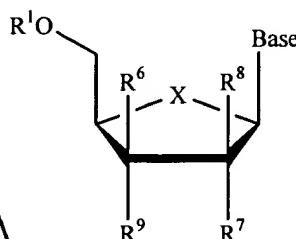
R⁷ is OR², hydroxy, alkyl, azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO₂, NH₂, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)₂, -N(acyl)₂;

R⁹ is hydrogen, OR², hydroxy, alkyl, azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO₂, NH₂, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)₂, -N(acyl)₂;

R¹⁰ is H, alkyl, chlorine, bromine or iodine; and

X is O, S, SO₂ or CH₂.

Claim 90 (currently amended): ~~The A~~ method for the treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host of claim 89, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

Base is a ~~purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein~~;

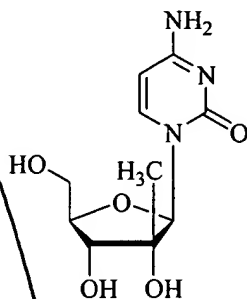
R¹ and R² are independently H; ~~mono-, di- or triphosphate~~; phosphate; a stabilized phosphate prodrug; acyl; alkyl; sulfonate ester; alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl; methane-sulfonyl; benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents; a lipid; a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R¹ and R² are independently H or phosphate;

R⁷ and R⁹ is ~~independently hydrogen~~, OR², alkyl (~~including lower alkyl~~), alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, O-alkenyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO₂, amino, ~~loweralkylamino~~, ~~or di(loweralkyl)amino~~, NH₂, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)₂, -N(acyl)₂; R⁹ is OR², alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, O-alkenyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO₂, amino, NH₂, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)₂, -N(acyl)₂;

R⁶ and R⁸ is are independently H, alkyl (~~including lower alkyl~~), chlorine, bromine or iodine; ~~R⁷ and R⁹, or R⁸ and R⁹ can come together to form a bond~~; and

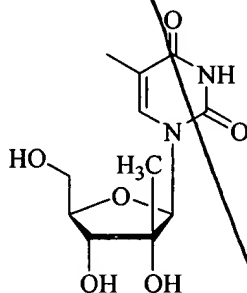
X is O, S, SO₂ or CH₂.

Claim 100 (currently amended): A method for the treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

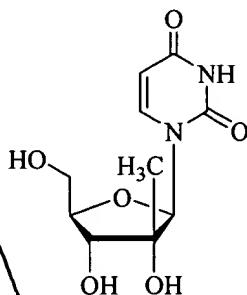
Claim 101 (currently amended): A method for the treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

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Claim 102 (currently amended): A method for the treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 130 (new): The method of any one of claims 83, 86, 89, 90, 100, 101, 102, or 140-145, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for oral delivery.

Claim 131 (new): The method of any one of claims 83, 86, 89, 90, 100, 101, 102, or 140-145, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for intravenous delivery.

Claim 132 (new): The method of any one of claims 83, 86, 89, 90, 100, 101, 102, or 140-145, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for parenteral delivery.

Claim 133 (new): The method of any one of claims 83, 86, 89, 90, 100, 101, 102, or 140-145, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for intradermal delivery.

Claim 134 (new): The method of any one of claims 83, 86, 89, 90, 100, 101, 102, or 140-145, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for subcutaneous delivery.

Claim 135 (new): The method of any one of claims 83, 86, 89, 90, 100, 101, 102, or 140-145, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for topical delivery.

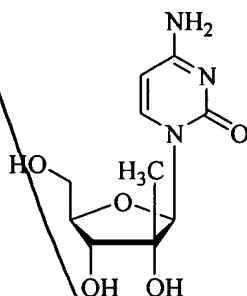
Claim 136 (new): The method of any one of claims 83, 86, 89, 90, 100, 101, 102, or 140-145, wherein the compound is in the form of a dosage unit.

Claim 137 (new): The method of claim 136, wherein the dosage unit contains 10 to 1500 mg of the compound.

Claim 138 (new): The method of claim 136, wherein the dosage unit is a tablet or capsule.

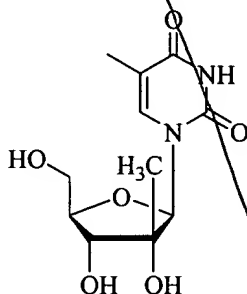
Claim 139 (new): The method of any one of claims 83, 86, 89, 90, 100, 101, or 102, wherein the host is a human.

Claim 140 (new): A method for the treatment of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a human, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



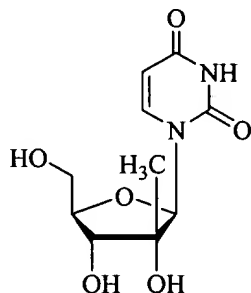
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof.

Claim 141 (new): A method for the treatment of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a human, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



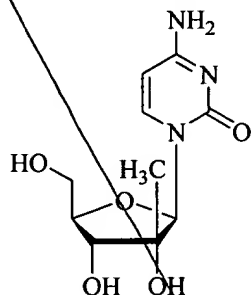
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof.

Claim 142 (new): A method for the treatment of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a human, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



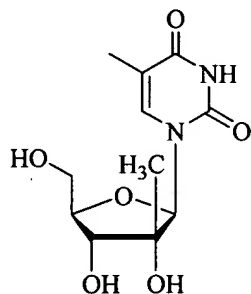
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof.

Claim 143 (new): A method for the treatment of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a human, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



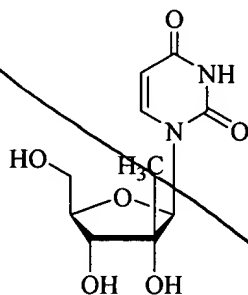
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 144 (new): A method for the treatment of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a human, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 145 (new): A method for the treatment of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a human, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

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